U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue A Defining Partnership in the 21st Century



"Promoting shared prosperity, preserving peace and security, strengthening democratic governance and human rights—these are the responsibilities of leadership. And as global partners, this is the leadership that the United States and India can offer in the 21st century."

-President Barack Obama

Launched in July 2009 by Secretary Clinton and External Affairs Minister Krishna, the U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue brings together the oldest and most populous democracies annually to guide a broad range of collaborative activities and consultative dialogues.

Bolstered by President Barack Obama's November 2010 visit, the strategic partnership between our two countries has never been more promising. We are cooperating at unprecedented levels on education, science and technology, economics and trade, health, agriculture, countering terrorism, and providing for regional and global security for the benefit of the citizens of both our countries and of the world.

FROM DIALOGUE TO ACTION

- U.S.-India two-way trade in goods reached a record high of \$48.8 billion in 2010. This surge of nearly 30 percent moved India up two notches to become our 12th largest goods trading partner.
- The unprecedented U.S.-India Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement is an important manifestation of our new bilateral partnership. In November, President Obama and Prime Minister Singh reiterated their commitment to cooperation in this sector. Over the past year, commercial partnerships between private U.S. and Indian firms have advanced, and our nuclear regulatory agencies have increased their scope of cooperation on key safety issues. The U.S. has also made progress on its pledge to support India's membership in the Nuclear Suppliers Group.
- Under the Partnership to Advance Clean Energy (PACE), more than 14 U.S. government agencies are committing \$100 million in grants and up to \$650 million in financing to advance joint research efforts and the deployment of clean energy solutions in India. In addition, the USG is facilitating dialogue, pilot projects, and policy coordination on shale gas, solar power, energy efficiency and smart-grid technology.

- With the Government of India as a full partner, the Fulbright-Nehru program has nearly tripled in the last three years, with about 150 students and scholars from each country participating annually in this flagship people-to-people exchange.
- The Homeland Security Dialogue, inaugurated in New Delhi in May, provides a robust framework to expand our counter-terrorism cooperation to global supply chain, port and border security; megacity policing; combating illegal finance and counterfeiting; and cyber-security and critical infrastructure protection.
- Leveraging their knowledge-based societies, the United States and India have expanded their cooperation in science and technology. The establishment of a new \$30 million Science and Technology Endowment Fund to fund promising research and development initiatives and an agreement to create a new Global Disease Detection Regional Center in New Delhi that will facilitate preparedness against pandemic influenza and other dangerous diseases are just two examples of this.

MUTUAL INTERESTS

All of the Strategic Dialogue discussions are built on our strong support for India's rise as a global leader. We have a mutual interest in a stable, secure, and democratic Asia. Recognizing India's growing role in the Asia-Pacific, a Japan-India-U.S. trilateral dialogue was established in April. The U.S. and India are increasingly consulting on matters of mutual strategic interest around the globe. Both countries announced joint projects in Afghanistan and Africa during the President's November trip.

U.S.-India defense cooperation has skyrocketed over the last decade with our militaries holding regular exchanges, dialogues, and exercises. U.S defense sales to India also continue to expand. India's recent \$4 billion C-17 purchase will support more than 22,000 jobs in the U.S. and enhance the Indian Air Force's strategic airlift and humanitarian response capability.